

Amendment to Abstract

Please rewrite the abstract to read:

An apparatus for making reinforcement ply material wherein reinforcement elements are grouped in untwisted sets and adjacent reinforcement elements in the same set are spaced apart a distance less than the distance between adjacent sets. The apparatus includes an extruder and a die head into which the extruder extrudes an elastomeric material. The die head defines a die throat and includes a guide insert which guides the reinforcement elements into the die throat. The guide insert has passages through which the reinforcement elements pass and which are arranged in a pattern corresponding to the arrangement of the reinforcement elements in the reinforced ply material.